GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:112
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2002
DECLINE IN FOREIGN TOURISTS ARRIVALS
K.H. MUNIYAPPA;M. JAGANNATH;PRABHA RAU;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline in foreign tourists arrival in India during the last six months;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of External Affairs had issued a directive to its consulates in the countries that they have issued travel advisories against travel to India;

(c) if so, whether the directive has been requested to be withdrawn;

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to infuse confidence amongst the foreign tourists intending to visit India?

(e) whether the Ministry has allocated funds to improve Jain Temple Complexes in the country?

(f) if so, whether various old Jain Temple Complexes of Karnataka have been included in the list; and

g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a): There has been a decline of 14.9 per cent in foreign tourist arrivals to the country during the year 2002 (January to June) as compared to the same period of the year 2001.

(b), (c) and (d): The information is being collected from the Ministry of External Affairs.

(e): Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g): An amount of Rs.299.39 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Department of Culture to Archaeological Survey of India and Central Public Works Department for the developmental activities in and around various Jain Temples in Karnataka. Various Jain temples/complexes for which assistance has been given include Shri Digamber Jain Sahastrakuta Jinalaya, Arasikeri, Distt. Hassan (Karnataka), Adinath Jain Temple at Raibag (Karnataka), Kunthanatha Basadi (Hampi), Chaturmukha Basadi at Gerusoppa, Bahubali statue at Karkala (Hampi), Jaina Temple, Pattadakal, Chaturmukha Basadi at Gerusoppa and group of temples at Panchkuta Basti (Mandya), Hassan (Sravanbelgola), Hema Kuta Hills (Hampi) and Hellebid (Hassan).